

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WALKER et al.) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date: February 5, 2004)) Attorney Docket No: 03-008
For: ELECTRONIC AMUSEMENT DEVICE)) CUSTOMER NO.: 22927
AND METHOD FOR ENHANCED SLOT))
MACHINE PLAY))

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: 02/05/04 By: 

Veronika S. Leliever

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent

to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. [] Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the pending U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. [] For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): _____
_____.
3. [] For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): _____.
4. [X] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
 - [X] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.
 - [] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.

[] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

5. [] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
7. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
 - a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
 - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
 - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

[] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;

[] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.

[] The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. [] I hereby certify:

[] that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.

[] that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. [] Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:

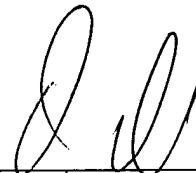
[] A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

[] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

11. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.

12. [] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,



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February 5, 2004

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION	Docket Number 03-008	Serial Number Not Yet Assigned
	Applicants WALKER et al.	
	Filing Date February 5, 2004	Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A	4,184,683	01/22/80	Hooker	273	143	
	B	4,570,934	02/18/86	Smyth	273	143	
	C	4,669,731	06/02/87	Clarke	273	143	
	D	4,939,705	07/03/90	Hamilton et al.	368	10	
	E	5,108,099	04/28/92	Smyth	273	138	
	F	5,123,649	06/23/92	Tiberio	273	143	
	G	5,178,390	01/12/93	Okada	273	143	
	H	5,370,399	12/06/94	Liverance	273	434	
	I	5,393,061	02/28/95	Manship et al	273	143	
	J	5,449,173	09/12/95	Thomas et al	273	143	
	K	5,559,312	09/24/96	Lucero	235	380	
	L	5,508,308	12/03/96	Piechowiak et al.	463	16	
	M	5,580,309	12/03/96	Piechowiak et al.	463	16	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	N	WO 98/19280	05/07/98	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

O	Brochure: "Power Play Slots", (http://www.softsite.com/ulti/), January 1997.
P	Author Unknown; "Innovative Gaming Announces Nevada Approval of IGT Joint Venture Game-Bonus Streak", PR Newswire; May 14, 1997, Section: Financial News.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	Q	5,639,088	06/17/97	Schneider et al	273	138.2	
	R	5,655,961	08/12/97	Acres et al.	463	27	
	S	5,695,402	12/09/97	Stupak	463	20	
	T	5,697,843	12/16/97	Manship	463	20	
	U	5,702,304	12/30/97	Acres et al.	463	29	
	V	5,704,835	01/06/98	Dietz, II	463	20	
	W	5,800,264	09/01/98	Pascal et al.	463	16	
	X	5,833,537	11/10/98	Barrie	463	21	
	Y	5,833,538	11/10/98	Weiss	463	21	
	Z	5,833,540	11/10/98	Miodunski et al.	463	42	
	AA	5,720,662	02/24/98	Holmes, Jr. et al.	463	20	
	BB	5,722,891	03/03/98	Inoue	463	20	
	CC	5,741,183	04/21/98	Acres et al.	463	42	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

DD	Poole, David, "Letter From Charlotte: Vegas Perfect For Racing", Las Vegas Review-Journal, June 22, 1997, Section C, Pg. 2C.
EE	Cook, Melissa, "The Best New Slots", Casino Player Magazine, April 1998, pg. 45.

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	FF	5,800,264	09/01/98	Pascal et al.	463	16	
	GG	5,833,538	11/10/98	Weiss	463	21	
	HH	5,833,540	11/10/98	Miodunski et al.	463	42	
	II	5,910,048	06/08/99	Feinberg	463	25	
	JJ	5,997,400	12/07/99	Seelig et al.	463	6	
	KK	5,997,401	12/07/99	Crawford	463	20	
	LL	6,004,207	12/21/99	Wilson, Jr. et al.	463	20	
	MM	US 6,203,430 B1	03/20/01	Walker et al.	463	20	
	NN	US 6,270,412 B1	08/07/01	Crawford et al.	463	20	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	OO	Grochowski, John; "Royal Is Worth Taking A Risk" Chicago Sun Times, April 5, 1998, Section: SHO, CASINOS, pg. 18; NC.
	PP	Green, Marian; "The New Slot Market", International Gaming & Wagering Business, May 1998, Vol. 19, No. 5.

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